

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/027,561

Examiner

DJENANE M. BAYARD

Applicant(s)

MORITA, TORU

Art Unit

2444

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/11/09.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 9-13 and 21.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 11/02/09.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Djenane M Bayard/
Examiner, Art Unit 2444

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Andrew Zidel on 11/02/09.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (amended) A system for providing a content comprising: a content providing apparatus for providing content, the content providing apparatus including a memory; and a relay apparatus connected to a multi-function mobile telephone through a subscriber telephone network, the relay apparatus being operable to convert a telephone number of the multi-function mobile telephone into an ID code unique to the multi-function mobile telephone, wherein communication between the multi-function mobile telephone and the content providing apparatus is performed through the relay apparatus based on the ID code, the relay apparatus comprising a unit that notifies the content providing apparatus of the ID code of the multi-function mobile telephone, wherein the memory of the content providing apparatus is for storing progress of current game playing, so that if a game is suspended during operation, the game may be resumed at a point of suspension by re-accessing the memory of the content providing apparatus, wherein the system further comprises an information terminal connected to the

subscriber telephone network using the multi-function mobile telephone, and wherein the content providing apparatus further includes: a unit operable to provide the content to the information terminal and to provide a key code to the information terminal when the content providing apparatus confirms a completed status in response to accessing of the information terminal, the key code for releasing a specific content hidden in a storage medium; and a unit operable to identify the information terminal to which the content is provided based on the ID code notified by the relay apparatus, so that the memory of the content providing apparatus stores the progress of current game playing at the information terminal identified based on the ID code.

9. (amended) A system for providing a content, comprising: a server connected to a computer network for providing the content; a terminal connected to a telephone communication network and having a telephone number unique thereto; and a relay apparatus for connecting the telephone communication network to the computer network; wherein the relay apparatus comprises: a unit for relaying communications between the terminal and the server, a unit for connecting the terminal to the computer network in response to a dial-up connection request from the terminal, a unit for detecting the telephone number of the terminal, a unit for converting the telephone number into a unique code, and a unit for notifying the server of the unique code; and the server comprises: a unit for providing the content to the terminal and for providing a key code when the server confirms a completed status in response to accessing of the terminal, the key code for releasing a specific content hidden in a storage medium, a memory; and a unit for identifying the terminal to which the content is provided based on the unique code; wherein the server memory is for storing progress of current game playing, so that if a game is suspended

during operation, the game may be resumed at a point of suspension by re-accessing the server memory, and the server memory stores the progress of current game playing at the terminal identified based on the unique code.

21. (amended) A method for providing content, comprising: providing a content providing apparatus for providing content, the content providing apparatus including a memory; providing a relay apparatus operable to be connected to a multi-function mobile telephone through a subscriber telephone network; operating the relay apparatus to convert a telephone number of the multi-function mobile telephone into an ID code unique to the multi-function mobile telephone, wherein communication between the multi-function mobile telephone and the content providing apparatus is performed through the relay apparatus based on the ID code; wherein the memory of the content providing apparatus is operable to store progress of current game playing, so that if a game is suspended during operation, the game may be resumed at a point of suspension by re-accessing the memory of the content providing apparatus; wherein the relay apparatus comprises a unit that notifies the content providing apparatus of the ID code of the multi-function mobile telephone; wherein the method further comprises connecting an information terminal to the subscriber telephone network using the multi-function mobile telephone; wherein the content providing apparatus includes: a unit operable to provide the content to the information terminal and to provide a key code to the information terminal when the content providing apparatus confirms a completed status in response to accessing of the information terminal, the key code for releasing a specific content hidden in a storage medium; and a unit operable to identify the information terminal to which the content is provided based on

the ID code notified by the relay apparatus, so that the memory of the content providing apparatus stores the progress of current game playing at the information terminal based on the ID code.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Andrew Zidel on 11/23/09.

Amendment to the specification:

Insert the following after the paragraph at lines 10-11 on page 7:

Fig. 5 illustrates a content providing apparatus in accordance with aspects of the invention .

Fig. 6 illustrates a notifying unit of the relay apparatus in accordance with aspects of the invention .

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the present invention describes an information terminal connected to a subscriber telephone network using multi-function mobile telephone. The relay apparatus of the present invention will convert the telephone number of the multi-function mobile telephone into an ID code unique to the multi-function mobile telephone and all communication between the mobile telephone and the content

provider is done through the relay apparatus. The Content Provider will identify the multi-function mobile telephone based on the ID code converted by the relay apparatus and store the progress and the status of current game playing at the information terminal that connected to a subscriber telephone network using the multi-function mobile telephone based on the Id code transmitted by the relay apparatus. The reasons cited above in combination with providing a key code to the information terminal when the content providing apparatus confirms a completed status in response to accessing of the information terminal, the key code for releasing a specific content hidden in a storage medium and all the limitations in the independent claims placed this present application in condition for allowance.

Furthermore, the prior art gives no indication that it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to create a relay system for transmitting data in this fashion.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DJENANE M. BAYARD whose telephone number is (571)272-3878. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday 5:30 AM- 3:00 PM..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Jr Vaughn can be reached on (571) 272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/D. M. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 2444